

REMARKS

Claims 8, 9, 11, and 12 are pending. Claims 9 and 12 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

In the December 13, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner identified that claims 8 and 11 were allowed over the prior art of record. Accordingly, applicants submit that claims 8 and 11 are in condition for allowance.

In the December 13, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 9 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,970,208 to Shim ("the Shim reference") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,802,026 to Tsukihashi ("the Tsukihashi reference") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,211,800 to Yanagihara ("the Yanagihara reference"). Claims 9 and 12 have been amended to depend from allowed claims 8 and 11, respectively. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 9 and 12 are also in condition for allowance.

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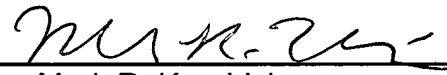
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Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call either of the undersigned attorneys at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

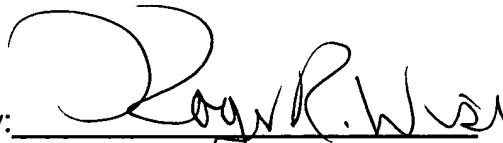
Respectfully submitted,

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